

Subcommittee Hears Berle's Views Today On Communist Curbs

Adolf A. Berle, Jr., former Assistant Secretary of State, was to be heard today by a subcommittee of the House Committee on Un-American Activities, studying proposed legislation to curb Communist activity in the United States.

Mr. Berle was to be followed by the witness chair by Morris Ernst, attorney, and Raymond Moley, writer and editor.

A statement on behalf of the Women's Bar Association of the District was placed in the record yesterday by Miss Selma M. Borchardt. She testified after Arthur Garfield Hays, general counsel of the American Civil Liberties Union, whose appearance was punctuated by spirited, although good-natured, exchanges between the lawyer and members of the subcommittee.

Parley With Clark Urged. Miss Borchardt asked that the group call on Attorney General Clark to hold a conference of representatives of the bar, political and social scientists and members of the Senate and House of both major political parties to "prepare preliminary drafts suggesting a possible approach" which would actually protect the civil liberties of all of our people and preserve from the attacks of foreign and domestic foes the Constitution itself, which guarantees these rights.

She also suggested a prime need was the establishment of criteria for determination of organizations "foreign-controlled or detrimental to the United States."

With these guides known, evidence relating to a particular organization could be placed before a Federal grand jury to decide whether or not it was subversive, Miss Borchardt said.

She added this would make it possible to evaluate the Communist Party as a political party or as a subversive group, not entitled to the rights of bona-fide "American" political group.

In commenting on Mr. Hays' testimony, which stated opposition to all legislation under consideration, Chairman Nixon of the subcommittee said the majority of the subcommittee is opposed to outlawing the Communist Party, but is inclined to favor some form of legislation to curb Communist operations.

Hays Discounts Danger. "It is about time our legislators realized that the American people are to be trusted and need no laws to save them from bad propaganda or bad thinking," Mr. Hays declared, adding he is convinced Communists have not become a danger in the United States, but are being given "valuable publicity" by congressional concern over them.

"What we need are men in this country who not only believe in, but who are not afraid of freedom," he said.

Recalling the history of minority political groups, Mr. Hays commented: "There is hardly a crack-brained movement in the United States that cannot get a million followers within a comparatively short time. These movements rise and fall."

Questioned on Wallace. Under questioning, he said he does not believe Communists in the United States are dangerous at all and, therefore, no more dangerous than the movements of the late Huey Long, Father Charles E. Coughlin or the Townsend Plan.

Representative McDowell, Republican, of Pennsylvania asked about Henry Wallace.

"I think he's a great deal of an idealist," Mr. Hays replied. "I don't think he has his feet on the ground."

He declared he considers any law designed to restrict the activities of Communists with respect to speech, writings or political activity to be in the nature of an unconstitutional "finding of fact" by Congress.

Yanks Call Red Bluff To Burn Vienna Autos

VIENNA, Feb. 11.—A Russian military policeman threatened to burn or blow up seven American automobiles parked behind a Russian-occupied hotel last night.

Personal intervention of the American provost marshal, Col. H. B. Hurless, prevented what top American authorities called a "serious incident."

Owners of the seven cars were among about 2,000 persons attending the annual Austrian-American ball in the Musik-Vereinsaal directly behind the Hotel Imperial.

A Russian sentry on duty at the hotel told American military police that if the cars were not moved within three minutes, they would be destroyed. International military police were called and the sentry repeated his threat.

Col. Hurless, who was attending the ball with other American officers and Austrian government officials, then told the Russian that since the automobiles were parked on the side of the street opposite the hotel, there was no reason to move them.

The sentry continued to protest, but finally gave in.

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ARTHUR GARFIELD HAYS, Testifies anti-Communist laws endanger "all political minorities."—Harris & Ewing Photo.

Red Propaganda Plans Not Worrying U. S.

American officials said today they do not think Russian propagandists would be able to produce much information embarrassing to the Western Nations from Soviet-captured German documents.

The Moscow radio broadcast that such documents would be published at the same time charging that the United States had distorted the record "to heap lies on the Soviet Union" when it published three weeks ago a volume of German documents concerning Nazi-Soviet relations in 1939-41.

The American published documents, selected from captured German Foreign Office files, told how Hitler and Stalin conspired to carve up Poland, divide the Baltic states, dominate the Balkans and try to lay a basis for smashing American, British and French influence throughout Europe, Asia and Africa.

In a counterblast considered here as rather weak, the Russian radio charged Monday night that documents in Soviet possession would show that the United States, by aiding German recovery after World War I, and Britain and France, through appeasement of Hitler, paved the way for World War II.

It was pointed out here that the things the Russians complained of were carried out in the fullest publicity at the time, leaving presumably little new information to come out, and that the Western leaders responsible for appeasement have long since passed from view.

Wallace Charges U. S. Backs Kings, Fascists

NEW YORK, Feb. 11.—Henry A. Wallace said last night that the general foreign policy of the United States "supports kings, reactionaries and fascists all around the world."

The policy is "breeding new fears" and "sapping our national resources as we pour 80 cents out of every tax dollar into supporting a movement toward war," the third party presidential aspirant said in a radio talk.

The United States, he declared, is supporting a British policy which "seeks to support the feudal lords of the Arab world as they try to suppress Jew and Arab alike."

Mr. Wallace said this country "to all intents and purposes" is backing the policy of Britain's Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin in Palestine. Saying that Americans are paying for the Nation's foreign policy "at the grocery store" and in "mental health," Mr. Wallace declared "we can't preserve democracy in an atmosphere of fear."

The true nature of our foreign policy—a policy of supporting Greek reactionaries, an undemocratic Turkish regime, the dictatorship of Chiang Kai-shek—is becoming ever more clear to the American people," the former Vice President asserted.

"The most recent evidence of the hypocrisy of men who talk about democracy and fight it at every turn is to be seen in the Palestine crisis," Mr. Wallace's radio talk was made in support of Leo Isaacson, American Labor Party candidate for Congress in the 24th district.

Sketch Class Plans Exhibit

The Kensington Sketch Class will hold its fourth annual art exhibit and tea from 3 to 7 p.m. Sunday in the Kensington Elementary School. About 70 paintings and a number of sketches are to be exhibited.

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Aid Program Pushed With Agreement on Independent Head

By J. A. O'Leary

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee was off to a good start today on the European Recovery Program with a unanimous agreement that it should be directed by an independent administrator with cabinet rank.

The big question of what the committee will do with the President's budget request for \$6,800,000,000 for the first 15 months of recovery aid to the 16 Western European countries remains to be answered.

It may be several days before the committee votes on that issue. In the meantime, it will continue behind closed doors to seek agreement on other details of the program, which is designed to put Western Europe on a self-sustaining basis and check the spread of communism.

The \$20,000-a-year independent administrator agreed on yesterday follows the general plan recommended by the Brookings Institution. The State Department's original bill recognized that the European recovery administrator should be outside the State Department, but it made him subject to the direction of the Secretary of State on matters of foreign policy.

Equal Rank With Marshall. It was generally agreed the Secretary of State should direct foreign policy, but some members of Congress felt that conflicts might arise in deciding when a given question involved foreign policy or economic policy.

The committee plan gives the administrator equal rank with the Secretary of State, as a cabinet member, which means that any dispute between them would be settled by the President. In announcing the decision, Chairman Vandenberg said that if the State Department has no objections he has not heard them.

On pay the ERP administrator will be better off than regular cabinet officers, who get \$15,000 a year.

Lewis Douglas, who came home from his post as Ambassador to England to help get the Marshall Plan through Congress, has been working in close co-operation with the Senate committee.

Although the Vandenberg committee was unanimous, there are indications further changes in the administrative machinery may be sought on the floor of the Senate or House.

Rent Boost Signers Promised Protection

About 1,600,000 tenants who signed up for 15 per cent rent boosts last year got cheering words today from Senator McCarthy, Republican, of Wisconsin.

"I think we are going to extend Federal rent controls," Senator McCarthy told a reporter. "and if we do I'm going to see that those people get some protection."

The Wisconsin Senator is a member of the Senate Banking Committee. He has agreed to sit down next Monday and try to draft a bill extending controls that expire at the end of this month.

Under the 1947 rent control law, tenants and landlords could agree on a lease running through the end of this year at 15 per cent above previous ceilings. After that the housing units were to be decontrolled.

A Senate Banking Subcommittee headed by Senator Cain, Republican of Washington, has recommended that these units remain free, but Senator McCarthy said he expects the full committee and Congress to change this.

"These tenants signed these higher leases to get some additional protection," he said. "It would be a fraud on them to allow them to be decontrolled while their neighbors remain under ceilings."

The Federal Spotlight

U. S. Workers' Split With UPWA Believed Likely in Few Months

(Continued From First Page.)

iously the Government workers' membership has been nearly 50,000. Some UPWA officials privately acknowledge that the unfavorable national publicity the union has had would recede considerably if UPWA got rid of its Federal membership. Then the "heat would be off" from Washington.

It also is no secret that Mr. Flaxer, who formerly headed the non-Federal Government public employees before the merger, and his associates are in complete control of the union. The UPWA Federal group is definitely in the minority, so far as policy matters are concerned.

Another thing that might prompt action was the Executive Board's approval yesterday afternoon of the third-party movement. Although Henry Wallace's name wasn't mentioned, there was no doubt in anyone's mind that the third-party approval meant Mr. Wallace. The resolution said a third-party movement "would stimulate discussion of the issues of the day."

The board didn't specifically endorse Mr. Wallace—that question will be decided at UPWA's convention. But the resolution definitely said the third-party movement was a good thing.

Some Executive Board members want flatly to endorse Mr. Wallace at once, but Mr. Flaxer said this is something for the union's convention to decide.

Although the Executive Board members were closed affair, we learned that several Executive Board members representing Federal locals disapproved of the action. One board member, who heretofore always has gone along with the Flaxer

action, Mr. Wallace and the third party placed it among the handful of left-wing CIO unions that have refused to repudiate the Wallace candidacy. Several weeks ago, the CIO Executive Council, by a decisive vote, flatly repudiated the Wallace candidacy.

At a press conference last night, Mr. Flaxer was asked whether he would mind telling the newsmen whether he ever has been a member of the Communist Party.

"I do not think that is anybody's business," the UPWA chief replied. "Not even Clare Hoffman's."

Hoffman, as chairman of the House subcommittee, was the one who originally asked Mr. Flaxer the question last week.

Incidentally, the Executive Board's action on Mr. Wallace and the third party placed it among the handful of left-wing CIO unions that have refused to repudiate the Wallace candidacy. Several weeks ago, the CIO Executive Council, by a decisive vote, flatly repudiated the Wallace candidacy.

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leadership, officially cast his vote against the resolution.

Wary of Hatch Act Provision. What disturbs Federal members of the union is possible violation of the Hatch Act, forbidding political activities by Government employees. Some contend formal endorsement of Mr. Wallace at the forthcoming convention would be a definite violation. Of course the other UPWA employees are not covered by the Hatch Act and can do what they please.

It is expected that Arthur Stein, former vice president of the old UPWA and at present acting secretary-treasurer of UPWA, will head the new autonomous Federal section of the union here.

One thing that will have a great deal to do with the decision that Mr. Stein and his associates must make about starting over again as an independent union is the amount of support they will be able to get from the national CIO.

Mr. Flaxer last week refused to tell the House Labor Subcommittee investigating the Government Services, Inc., strike whether he was a member of the Communist Party. He based his refusal to answer on the fact that the "issue was an economic one," and that the committee was trying to make it a political one.

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Failure of Local to File Pledges Ruled No Bar To Parent Union

The National Labor Relations Board was on record today with a ruling that failure of a local union's officers to file the required Taft-Hartley Act non-Communist affidavits does not prevent its parent national union from seeking bargaining rights.

The ruling was made in a case involving bargaining election proceedings at Warshawsky & Co. Chicago. Two unions competed in an election last July for the right to represent company employees, the CIO United Auto Workers and the Independent International Association of Machinists. The election ended in a 25-25 tie.

After the new labor law barring unions whose officers fail to file affidavits became effective, the auto workers asked for a runoff. The machinists opposed the UAW taking part in a run-off on the grounds there was no evidence to show that the local CIO officers had complied with the filing requirements. The UAW replied that it had no local at Warshawsky & Co. as yet and that its national officers were in compliance with the law.

In its decision, the NLRB ordered the run-off election to be held within 30 days. The board ruled that since the national union was the petitioner it made no difference whether or not local officers had filed affidavits.

Meanwhile, the NLRB announced that as of February 1, a total of 143 international and 2,776 local unions were in full compliance with the affidavit requirements. Seventy-nine of the internationals are affiliated with the AFL, 23 with the CIO and 41 are independents. Among the local unions in compliance, 2,126 are AFL, 221 CIO and 429 independent.

The craft, returning with 10 aboard from an over-water training flight to San Juan, Puerto Rico, was seeking a landing place after weather conditions prevented it from setting down at the naval air base here.

The two killed were Lt. Morris Cromer of Danville, Ind., and Lt. (j. g.) Harry W. Pressell, Sharon, N. H.

The plane crashed in a wooded area about 100 yards from the west bank of the St. Johns River and partly burned, officers said.

The injured were listed as Ensign Wesley L. Burks, Ballinger, Tex.; Ensign Richard T. Sumpter, Fort Logan, Colo.; David R. Ritt, Jr., Angier, N. C.; James H. Shotton, Ocala, Fla.; William J. Young, Glendale, N. Y.; Frank Lollo, Middletown, Ohio, and Harold F. Edwards, Ramseytown, N. C.

The resolutions urged that the plan be administered so as to permit prompt action in countries to be aided. They said that while safekeeping of the prospective European governments should be allowed to decide details of the spending.

The Legislative and International Committees of the AAUW are preparing to present a radio program of information about the Marshall Plan.

Some attorneys at the meeting said afterward, however, the principal objection to the nominee is that he has not been admitted to practice here and they said they believe he has not tried a case in court. He is a member of the American, Minnesota and Federal Bar Associations.

Mr. Tamm was nominated by President Truman to fill the vacancy created by the prospective elevation of District Court Justice James M. Proctor to the United States Court of Appeals.

58 Rebels Who Shelled Salonika Slain by Greeks

SALONIKA, Greece, Feb. 11.—Fifty-eight members of the guerrilla band which shelled Salonika yesterday have been slain and 22 captured, an official announcement said today.

The gun which fired the shot, a 65-millimeter artillery piece, has been captured, the report said. Two planes attacking the rebels were hit by heavy machine-gun fire and one of them made a forced landing, but the pilot escaped injury.

Two persons injured in the pre-dawn artillery attack yesterday died today, increasing the death toll in the city to six.

End of Solid South Possible in Time, Pepper Concedes

By the Associated Press

Senator Pepper, Democrat, of Florida said today the Solid South really may be breaking up.

But if so, he told a reporter, it will be too slow a process to do the Republicans any good in 1948. "There is no question about it," he declared, "President Truman will carry every State in the South again this year."

Senator Pepper said recent angry protests against the President's civil rights program, however, may mark a shift away from solid Southern Democratic support in future years. "After all," he said, "we find there is not much difference often between the so-called Southern conservative Democrats and the Northern Republicans."

Meanwhile, Gov. Fielding Wright of Mississippi said he is determined to keep the Southern protest alive. He told a news conference there will be a meeting of Southern Democrats to decide how party leaders who back anti-Southern legislation can be punished.

Two Killed, Eight Injured In Florida Plane Crash

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Feb. 11.—Two flyers were killed and eight others hurt, two critically, in the crash of a Navy Martin Mariner about 20 miles south of here, the public information office said early today.

The craft, returning with 10 aboard from an over-water training flight to San Juan, Puerto Rico, was seeking a landing place after weather conditions prevented it from setting down at the naval air base here.

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